Neighbors

1324 Chippenham Dr. Baton Rouge, LA 70808 Phone: (225) 767-8549 Fax: (225) 769-6026 bob@neighborsmag.com

January 22, 2007

Ms. Julie Leblanc, Chairman P&E Subcommittee P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160

Dear Ms. Leblanc,

As an active member of the Louisiana Chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association for many years, and as a dedicated marsh fisherman for more than a half century who grew up in a home attached to a large seafood restaurant in eastern New Orleans, I want to cast my vote for the AGRINAUT. Daniel Becker of Spartina Farms has devised the only sensible, affordable method that I have seen thus far for saving the coast of Louisiana.

Filling Louisiana's marsh with clay based spoil as has been proposed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and others, will definitely not rebuild the essential marsh. Re-growing the marsh grass is the most natural way to reverse the course of continued loss of our state's wetlands. Now is the time to stop talking and start putting back what years of neglect and abuse of one of our nation's most important natural resources has caused

I would urge you and your committee to do all in your power to get as many AGRINAUT vessels in place as quickly as you possibly can. The future of Louisiana depends on your actions as this critical time. Please don't let our children and grandchildren down.

Many thanks to you and your committee for doing all that you can in this essential effort.

Sincerely

Robert Mathews

Publisher



Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation – Coastal Sustainability Program

Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation, P.O. Box 6965 Metairie, LA 70009-6965 (See the Coastal Sustainability Program webpage at SaveOurLake.org for documentation) February 2007

RE: PPL 17 Recommendations for project nominations

TO: CWPPRA voting agencies and parish officials

The Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation requests that federal, state and parish officials strongly consider supporting four projects for nomination at the February 7, 2007 CWPPRA meeting. These projects comply with LPBF's Comprehensive Habitat Management Plan (CHMP) or the Pontchartrain Coastal Lines of Defense Program (Figure 1). Both programs are endorsed by the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana and the Louisiana Wildlife Federation.

Many of the proposed projects for PPL 17 are both consistent with our CHMP or our Pontchartrain Coastal Lines of Defense Program. Nearly all of the proposed projects are desirable. However, some of the proposals are on restoration features which have no prior restoration projects completed or planned, and so they are given higher priority to comply with the restrictive selection process.

PPL 17 Nomination Recommendations:

Region 1 - Pontchartrain Basin
Bayou la Loutre Ridge Restoration
Conkey Cove Marsh Creation and Shoreline Protection Project

Region 2 – Breton Basin

Caernarvon Outfall Management/Lake Lery Shoreline Restoration Bohemia Wildlife Management Area Mississippi River Reintroduction Project

Region 2 – Mississippi Delta No Recommendation

John a. Segs

We respectfully suggest these projects warrant selection as nominee projects for PPL 17. If you have any questions, please call or email.

Regards,

John A. Lopez, Ph.D.

Director – Coastal Sustainability Program, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation Office 225 294-4998 Cell 504 421-7348

johnlopez@pobox.com

Recommended PPL 17 Nomination Projects

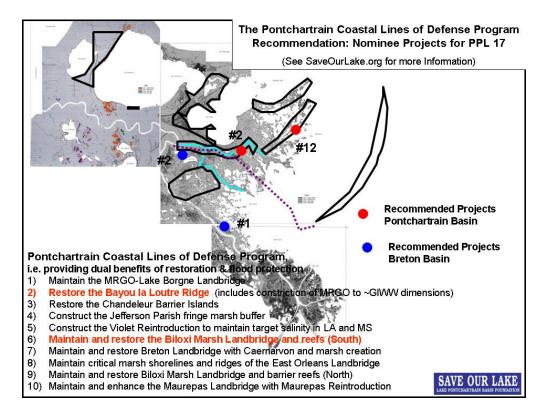


Figure 1: The ten Pontchartrain Coastal Lines of Defense – The dots are the CWPPRA project recommended for PPL 17 nomination selection.

Lake Borgne Basin Levee District

6136 East St. Bernard Hwy.
POST OFFICE BOX 216
VIOLET, LA 70092
Email: lbbld@bellsouth.net
Phone: (504) 682-5941
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February 2, 2007

Troy G. Constance, Chair, Technical Committee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: CWPPRA/PPL 17

Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit

Dear Mr. Constance:

As the Executive Director for the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District, I remain concerned over the continued loss of our wetlands and the resulting loss in hurricane protection for New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish. Therefore, I support the efforts of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government to restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. I appreciate the opportunity that the Breaux Act has provided, by facilitating a partnership with the St. Bernard Parish Government to greatly benefit coastal Louisiana. I support the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit nominated for the CWPPRA PPL 17.

I am familiar with the importance of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. The wetland provides habitat for wildlife, fish and plants that are essential to the environment as well as the local economy and culture. Cypress restoration of this area would provide hurricane protection by impeding the surge due to friction, but also the cypress trees reduce the wave energies that proved to jeopardize the levees. Preventive measures like the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit must be taken to ensure the safety of the people living in the coastal Louisiana parishes. Furthermore, I believe that this project has the ability to elevate the region to national and international excellence in a multi-disciplinary approach to infrastructure and wetland restoration to be used as an international model of recovery, policy change, sustainability, and hazard mitigation.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Turner, Jr., P.E. Executive Director

RAT:sm

TICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY & PUBLIC SAFETY

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

C. RAY NAGIN MAYOR COL. TERRY J. EDBERT DIRECTOR

February 2, 2007

Troy G. Constance, Chair, Technical Committee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: CWPPRA/PPL 17

Cypres's Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit

Dear Mr. Constance:

As the Director of Homeland Security for the City of New Orleans, I remain concerned over the continued loss of our wetlands and the resulting loss in hurricane protection for New Orleans. Therefore, I support the efforts of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government to restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. I appreciate the opportunity that the Breaux Act has provided, by facilitating a partnership with the St. Bernard Parish Government to greatly benefit coastal Louisiana. I support the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit nominated for the CWPPRA PPL 17.

I am familiar with the importance of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. The wetland provides habitat for wildlife, fish and plants that are essential to the environment as well as the local economy and culture. Cypress restoration of this area would provide hurricane protection by impeding the surge due to friction, but also the cypress trees reduce the wave energies that proved to jeopardize the levees. Preventive measures like the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit must be taken to ensure the safety of the people living in New Orleans. Furthermore, I believe that this project has the ability to elevate the region to national and international excellence in a multi-disciplinary approach to infrastructure and wetland restoration to be used as an international model of recovery, policy change, sustainability, and hazard mitigation.

Very Respectfully,

Col. Terry Ebbert, Director

Homeland Security & Public Safety

City of New Orleans

1300 PEROEDO STREET | SUITE SELS | NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA | 70412 PHONE 504,658,6900 | FAX 504,658,4066





"RE-BUILDING THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE 21st CENTURY"

Sewerage & Water Board OF NEW ORLEANS

C. RAY NAGIN, President
TOMMIE A. VASSEL, President Pro-Tem

625 ST. JOSEPH STREET NEW ORLEANS, LA 70165 • 504-529-2837 www.swbnole.org

February 1, 2007

Troy G. Constance, Chair, Technical Committee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Dear Mr. Constance:

As the Executive Director of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans, I appreciate this opportunity to provide you with our project proposal. The joint project by the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government would restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. I appreciate the opportunity that the Breaux Act has provided, by facilitating a partnership with the St. Bernard Parish Government to greatly benefit coastal Louisiana. I highly endorse the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit nominated for the CWPPRA PPL 17.

I feel that the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit is extremely important. The wetland provides habitat for wildlife, fish and plants that are essential to the environment as well as the local economy and culture. Hurricane Katrina jeopardized this natural environment and the citizens that are protected by these wetlands. Preventive measures like the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit must be taken to ensure the safety of the people living in New Orleans. Furthermore, I believe that this project has the ability to elevate the region to national and international excellence in a multi-disciplinary approach to infrastructure and wetland restoration that can be used as an international model of recovery, policy change, sustainability, and hazard mitigation.

We look forward to working with you on this challenging project if selected. Please give all due consideration to our application.

Respectfully,

Marcia A. St. Martin
Executive Director



"RE-BUILDING THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE 21st CENTURY"

Sewerage & Water Board OF NEW ORLEANS

C. RAY NAGIN, President
TOMMIE A. VASSEL, President Pro-Tam

625 ST. JOSEPH STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70165 • 504-529-2837
www.ewbnois.org

February 1, 2007

Troy G. Constance, Chair, Technical Committee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: CWPPRA / PPL 17

Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit

Dear Mr. Constance:

As the Mayor of New Orleans, I would like to endorse the efforts of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government to restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. I appreciate the opportunity that the Breaux Act has provided, by facilitating a partnership with the St. Bernard Parish Government to greatly benefit coastal Louisiana. I support the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit nominated for the CWPPRA PPL 17.

I feel that the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit is extremely important. The wetland provides habitat for wildlife, fish and plants that are essential to the environment as well as the local economy and culture. Hurricane Katrina jeopardized this natural environment and the citizens that are protected by these wetlands. Preventive measures like the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit must be taken to ensure the safety of the people living in New Orleans. Furthermore, I believe that this project has the ability to elevate the region to national and international excellence in a multi-disciplinary approach to infrastructure and wetland restoration that can be used as an international model of recovery, policy change, sustainability, and hazard mitigation.

Sincerely

Mayor

City of New Orleans



February 2, 2007

Troy G. Constance. Chair, Technical Committee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

RE: CWPPRA / PPL 17

CYPRESS RESTORATION OF THE BAYOU BIENVENUE CENTRAL

WETLAND UNIT

Dear Mr. Constance:

As a neighborhood leader of New Orleans, I would like to endorse the efforts of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government to restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. I appreciate the opportunity that the Breaux Act has provided, by facilitating a partnership with the St. Bernard Parish Government to greatly benefit coastal Louisiana. I support the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit nominated for the CWPPRA PPL 17.

I feel that the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit is extremely important. The wetland provides habitat for wildlife, fish and plants that are essential to the environment as well as the local economy and culture. Hurricane Katrina jeopardized this natural environment and the citizens that are protected by these wetlands. Preventive measures like the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit must be taken to ensure the safety of the people living in New Orleans. Furthermore, I believe that this project has the ability to elevate the region to national and international excellence in a multi-disciplinary approach to infrastructure and wetland restoration that can be used as an international model of recovery, policy change, sustainability, and hazard mitigation.

Sincerely

LaToya W. Cantrell. President

Broadmoor Improvement Association

WILLIAMS ARCHITECTS

1 February, 2007

Troy G. Constance, Chair, Technical Committee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: PM-C P.O. Box 60267 New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: CWPPRA / PPL 17

Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit

To: CWPPRA voting agencies and parishes

As a citizen of New Orleans and Neighborhood Planner for the Lower Ninth Ward (UNOP planning process), I would like to endorse the efforts of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish Government to restore 10,000 to 15,000 acres of critical wetlands located in the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit. Currently nutrient rich effluent from both parishes is discharged to the Mississippi River where it contributes to the hypoxia, or dead zone in the Northern Gulf of Mexico. Rerouting the effluent will allow the nutrients to be used to replenish the wetlands, rather than increasing damage to the coastal environment. The wetland restoration project will integrate sustainability with mitigation measures. The wetlands located in the Central Wetland Unit are known to decrease storm surge by approximately 3-6 ft, which is vital for the sustainability of our community. The enhanced wetlands will protect Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes from future storm vulnerability, while the environmental improvement will protect the local economy and culture that is dependent on productive wetlands.

I believe that this project will be an asset to our community. I urge you to give the Cypress Restoration of the Bayou Bienvenue Central Wetland Unit Project favorable consideration throughout the review process.

Respectfully,

John C. Williams